

THE
SIGNS
OF THE
TIMES;
OR, SOME
EXPOSITIONS
AND
REMARKS

On fundry Texts of Scripture, relative to
the remarkable PHENOMENON, or DARK-DAY,
which appeared in NEW-ENGLAND on the Nae-
teenth of May, 1780: By which it appears that NEW-
ENGLAND is the Place that the Prophet jOEL
calls ZION and JERUSALEM.

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PREFACE.

To the World of Human Beings.

I waited to hear what the Wife Men and Astrologers opinion was of the remarkable Phenomenon, or DARK DAY, which appeared on the nineteenth of May, 1780 ; and I thought as they could discern the face of the sky, that they would discern the Signs of the Times, and would let the world know that it was the forerunner of some extraordinary event or period ; but all seem to be silent : Therefore, I, by the assistance of my L O R D, will shew my opinion as I shall gather from what the Prophets have foretold ; and I hope it will be to the glory of God, and the good of men, and it may make them wise, and so may understand. *Dan. xii. 10.*

T H E
SIGNS OF THE TIMES, &c.

JOEL iii. 15.

The Sun and the Moon shall be darkened, and the Stars shall withdraw their shining.

FIRST. When shall this extraordinary Phenomenon appear? In what year?

SECONDLY. Where shall it appear?

THIRDLY. What events shall follow?

FIRST. WHEN shall this darkness be that the Prophet Joel speaks of? About what time? Answer; a little before the conversion of the Jews, Joel iii. 16. *The LORD will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.* This is to follow the extraordinary Phenomenon that the Prophet speaks of. And if the LORD is the strength of the children of Israel, then they must believe in him; Dan. xii. 1. *And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people:* And there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there

was a nation ; even to that same time : And at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And these things may be about the year 1782 : For *Daniel's* vision of the 2300 days of sacrifice was 553 years before JESUS CHRIST. Which time was to expire before their sanctuary should be cleansed, (or they be in the faith) see *Dan.* viii. 14. And the xiith chapter and 12th verse of *Daniel* hath analogous, or bearing relation to the viiith chap. and 14th verse of *Daniel*, that faith their sanctuary shall be cleansed. And the xiith chap. and 12th verse faith, *Blessed is he that waiteth and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days* ; which makes 2335 days. Now if their sanctuary is cleansed they must be in faith, and if in faith of JESUS CHRIST, they are blessed, as in the xiith chapter and 12th verse. And as *Daniel's* vision was 553 years before CHRIST, 1782 will make that period of 2335, counting every day a year, which is the time for the conversion of the Jews. So I conclude that May 19, 1780 is the time that the Prophet *foel* foretold, chap. iii. and 15th verse ; *When the sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.* It being some small space before that the L O R D will be the strength, or salvation of the children of *Israel*.

SECONDLY. Where shall this extraordinary Phenomenon appear ? Answer ; in Zion, or where J E S U S C H R I S T 's churches are predominant ; *Joel* iii. 16. *The L O R D shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem.* Will any man say that the darkness on the nineteenth day of May, 1780 was not the voice of the L O R D ? for there was no second cause : But as the L O R D is the first cause, it is that which the Prophet *Joel* calls the voice of the L O R D .

Question. Where are J E S U S C H R I S T 's Churches ?

Answer ; In the wilderness or some place that G O D hath prepared, and it may be said the church was in the wilderness from the Apostles days to the height of antichrist, which was about the year 1260 : See *Rev.* xii. 6. *And the Woman (that is the Church) fled into the wilderness where she hath a place prepared of G O D, that they should feed her a thousand two hundred and threescore days.* This may be said to be the time that was before the antichristian church began to persecute the Christians : *Rev.* xii. 13. *And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the Woman which brought forth the Man Child, (or the worshippers of the Man J E S U S C H R I S T as their King and High-priest.)* But blessed be G O D he hath prepared *America*, for her reception ;

Rev. xii 14. *And to the Woman were given two wings of a great eagle:* (This first paragraph shews that the Woman, that is the Church, should have shipping prepared that she should wing away over the Atlantic to *America*, for as an eagle flies by the force of air, so is a ship carried to her port by the force of air;) *that she might fly into the wilderness into her place.* No greater wilderness at the days of our Fore-fathers than *North-America*; it was like a new found world, and our Fathers left their native Country that they might worship God in truth agreeable to the Scripture: And as the church of *Rome* is predominant in most places in *Europe*, and the church of *England* is predominant in *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*; and both of these churches are of an antichristian faith, for the former confesseth that the Pope is head of the church of *Rome*, while the latter confesseth that the reigning King of *Great-Britain* is their head. But the *New-England* Churches believe and confess Jesus CHRIST to be the Head, King and High-priest of the Congregational Churches, and these Churches are predominant in *New-England*: Therefore I do conclude that it is the place the Prophet *Joel* calls *Zion* and *Jerusalem*, where the LORD shall utter his voice; and if the Phenomenon of the nineteenth of May, 1780 was mostly

confined to *New-England*, you need no greater evidence, for it is the voice of **GOD**. And I shall proceed to my Third Head.

T H I R D L Y. What extraordinary events shall follow ?

The conversion of the *Jews* we find to be about the year 1782, as I have proved. In a time of trouble ; for the Prophet *Daniel* in chap. xii. ver. 1, saith, *It shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation.* And *John* the Divine saith, *Rev. xvi. 18. And there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth.* The words of these Prophets hath analogous, or bearing relation to each other. And *John* saith farther, *Rev. xi. 19. And Great Babylon came in remembrance before GOD to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath.* *Dan. vii. 26. But the judgment shall set, and they shall take away his dominion to consume and to destroy it unto the end.* Now if the antichristian churches of Great Babylon are to bear the fierceness of **GOD's** wrath, how can they endure ? They must be consumed.

Question first. Who is antichrist ?

Question second. What dominion is that which *Daniel* speaks of that is to be consumed ?

First. Who is antichrist ?

Answer ; All the heads of churches but

Jesus CHRIST, they are anti to Him who is Head of the Christian Churches, and the government is upon his shoulder : And as the Pope is head of the church of *Rome*, and the King of *Great-Britain* is head of the church of *England*, all such are anti to Jesus CHRIST; for he is Head of his Churches; see *Eph.* v.23. And they are false heads or false christs, and our blessed LORD foretold you of such, *Matt.* xxiv. 4. *And Jesus answered and said unto them, take heed that no man deceive you, for many shall come in my name, saying I am christ, and shall deceive many.* And doth not the Pope pretend that he hath full power from Jesus CHRIST to be head of the church of *Rome*? And doth not the King of *Great-Britain* and the Arch-bishop of *Canterbury* pretend to have the same power, and to be the head and Arch-priest of the church of *England*? But they cannot deceive the elect; *John xxiv. 24. For there shall arise false christs and false propbets; and shall shew great signs and wonders, insomuch that if it were possible they shall deceive the very elect.* Now take heed that you are not deceived by these false christs.

Q. SECOND. What dominion is that which *Daniel* the Prophet speaks of that is to be consumed, in the viith chap. 26th ver.

Answer; By the description which *Daniel* gives, it must be the dominion of *Great-*

Britain ; for of all the Kings of Europe that were under the Romans, none but those of Great-Britain held the title of three kingdoms ; *Dan. vii. 24.* And he shall subdue three kings. *V. 25.* And he shall speak great words against the Most High. Yea, George the Third calls himself head of the church of *England* upon earth ; see Queen *Ann's* patent or commission to the Governors of her charity to the poor Clergy, in which are these words, “ Whereof Ourself is the only “ supreme Head on earth.” And I think these are great words, that GOD is not the Head of the church of *England*, and that he is not supreme in the church ; *Dan. vii. 25.* And shall wear out the saints of the Most High ; so that they shall seek a new world to worship GOD in truth, agreeable to Scripture. Do but call to remembrance Queen *Mary*, and King *Charles* the First, that Saint who was the means of massacring above two hundred thousand Presbyterians and Dissenters in about six months time in *Ireland*, of men, women and children ; and also silenced seven hundred and twenty Dissenting Ministers in Great-Britain ; see *Neal's history* ; also read *Thomas Delaun's* sufferings ; *Dan. vii. 25.* And think to change times and laws : How have the Kings of *England* kept the Charters granted to the late Province of *Massachusetts-Bay* ? Hath not George the

Third destroyed them and sent out of his mouth waters as a flood to destroy us? But thanks to God he has caused the earth to help us; see *Bunker-bill* and other places; Rev. xii. 15, 16. *And the serpent cast out of his mouth waters as a flood after the Woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood, and the earth helped the Woman, and the earth opened her mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth.* Dan. vii. 25. *And they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.* And they, the Saints, shall be given into his hand to be, Rev. vi. 9. *Slain for the word of God, and for the testimony which they held.* Until a time, yea, Queen Mary's time; and times, yea, King Charles the First, the massacre in *Ireland*, and King James the second, the siege of *Londonderry* in *Ireland*, their times. The dividing of time; King George the Third began to massacre in *Boston*, March 5, 1770, and at *Lexington*, April 19, 1775, and went forward to destroy to *Concord-Bridge*; and the Spirit of God came upon the Sons of Zion, and they armed themselves to stand for their lives, and the lives of their wives and children, and they came to *Concord-Bridge*, and as they caine the enemy charged them twice before they joined battle, and God gave the victory that day to the Sons of Zion,

and their enemies fled before them all the way from Concord-Bridge, as thou goest down to the town of Charlestown ; and many of their enemies fell down slain that day, and their enemies went into Charlestown hard beset. Thus was King George the Third's time of persecution divided, and his dominion divided also ; for the Thirteen United States of America declare their Independency July 4, 1776. But to proceed, *Dan. vii. 26.* *But the judgment shall set, and they shall take away his dominion to consume and to destroy it unto the end.* As for the other Kings of Europe their lives are prolonged, but JESUS CHRIST shall have dominion over them, and not the Pope ; *Dan. vii. 12.* *As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time :* So that I do conclude that the dominion of Great-Britain shall be taken from that antichristian King, and will become a state in JESUS CHRIST, which I shall rejoice to see. My Reader, you may flout at these lines, but remember that Heaven and earth shall pass away, but the Scripture of the Prophets shall be fulfilled ; *Dan. xi. 36.* *For that that is determined shall be done.* I shall close all with a word of ADMONITION.

Seeing that these things are to be, and I have told you where Zion and Jerusalem is,

you that are dwellers there, what sort of men ought you to be in holy conversation ? For the sinners in *Zion* dishonor God who dwelleth there, and are a disgrace to their country, and will receive the greater condemnation at the great day of judgment : Yea, they are of all men most unexcusable ; it will be more tolerable for *Sodom* and *Go-morrab* in the judgment than for you. The profane blasphemer that will boldly utter against God and all good men, and themselves too, such profane imprecations, how can they appear before God attended with an unnumerable company of Angels and Saints, to hear their dreadful sentence pronounced, Depart ye cursed blasphemer into everlasting torment ! Also, thou debauchee, and deceitful hypocrite, and extortioner, and defraudulent dealer, that loves the balance of deceit, thou thief and robber, how can you repent, seeing you love the world so that you cannot make satisfaction to your neighbor that you have wronged of his goods and estate ? Do you think to make an unjust repentance ? I say it will do you no good ; for God is just, and he will not accept of a repentance that will not do justice ; all such repents are vain and sinful, and you dishonor God who dwelleth in *Zion*, and are a disgrace to your country, and shall receive the greater con-

damnation. Also, ye antichristians in Zion, what will become of you that will not have JESUS CHRIST to reign over you? but the Pope or King George you say is your head. O thou poor deceived creature! did the Pope or King give their lives to satisfy divine justice for your transgressions? No, they are finite, therefore infinite justice cannot be satisfied with a finite atonement, but JESUS CHRIST being an infinite Person, yea GOD in man, is infinite, and his sufferings is a sufficient atonement to justify the believer, and it is just that he should be your King and Head; yea, he is the good Shepherd, *John x. 11. I am the good Shepherd; the good Shepherd giveth his life for the sheep; John x. 3, 4. 5.* And he calleth his own sheep by name and leadeth them out; and when he putteth forth his own sheep he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him, for they know not the voice of strangers. No, not the voice of the Pope, nor the King of Great-Britain, nor the Bishop of Canterbury, nor Mahomet, nor none of their minions; no they will not follow them for they know not their voice, for they are strangers to JESUS CHRIST's sheep, and his sheep will follow none but CHRIST. But as you antichristians reject

CHRIST from reigning over you, and will not hear his voice, therefore you dishonor him and despise that divine Person, who suffered the Just for the unjust that he might bring us unto God : And are you not a disgrace to *Zion*, that country where JESUS CHRIST vouchsafe to dwell ? It will be more tolerable for *Sodom* in the judgment than for you. Also, you inimical Murmurers that are always having your harangues against the proceedings of your Representatives in Congress, or the General Assembly of the State whereunto you belong, and you chuse always to herd with such as will not attend any Town-meetings, and their whole plan is to embarrass all orders of the United States of *America*, or *Zion*. But I tell you it is hard for you to kick against the pricks, for JESUS CHRIST is King in *Zion*, and I find you fighting against GOD and *America* ; for *New-England* is the place the Prophet *Joel* calls *Zion* and *Jerusalem* : And are you better than the Jews that murmured against GOD and against *Moses* ? For GOD by the hand of *Moses* was bringing the children of *Israel* from under the *Egyptian* bondage, and our Lord JESUS CHRIST, which is our GOD, is bringing *America* from an antichristian bondage under *Great-Britain*, and GOD in his providence hath provided a Congress to lead and guide us, and

shall we murmur against God, and such as he hath appointed to lead us ? What are you better than they whose carcases fell in the wilderness ? *Numb. xi. 1.* And when the people complained, it displeased the **LORD**, and the **LORD** heard it, and his anger was kindled, and the fire of the **LORD** burnt among them and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp. And do you think, you inimical murmuring Complainers, that the **LORD** doth not hear you, and see the intents of your heart, how you are against him and *Zion* too ? But wo to you, except you repent ! And although you will not hear me, yet remember I tell you that the Kingdom of God is come nigh unto you, and that **JESUS CHRIST** will in a small time take to himself his great power, and reign King of nations as he now reigns King of Saints. Therefore rejoice ye children of *Zion*, for thy **LORD JESUS CHRIST** is your Head and King and will dwell in the midst of you, and will take to himself his great power and reign ; therefore give glory to him and be exceeding glad, for great will be your happy state in this world and in the world to come. Also, you Sons of *Zion* that are of a martial spirit, that like the sons of mars, do boldly march forth to the valley of decision to decide as good soldiers under **JESUS CHRIST**, their great Captain, whether

CHRIST shall reign, or antichrist shall reign. Lift up your heads, *Joel* iii. 14. For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. Yea, *Joel* iii. 16. The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem, and the Heavens and the earth shall shake. Yea, the LORD hath shook the earth in the *West-Indies*, and hath shook many of his enemies into eternity on the tenth, eleventh and twelfth of October, 1780 : Yea, he is the Lion of the tribe of Judah, and when he shall roar he will shake his enemies, and who can stand before him ? For he is in Zion, therefore let Zion's enemies tremble when they appear to the battle against the Sons of Zion ; for the Spirit of their Lord will come upon them as it came upon Sampson when he came unto Lehi, *Judges* xv. 14. And when he came unto Lehi the Philistines shouted against him, and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him.— Ver. 15. And put forth his hand and slew a thousand men. And may the Spirit of the LORD come mightily upon the Sons of Zion, that one may captivate a thousand, and ten put ten thousand to flight.

So prays your Friend and Brother,

SAMUEL GATCHEL.